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UNCLAS BOGOTA 005299

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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [MARR](#) [CO](#)
SUBJECT: BOGOTA FY08 "1206" PROJECT PROPOSALS

1. (SBU) Embassy Bogota concurs with the following eight project proposals for Section 1206 funding in FY 2008. Listed in priority order, all will strengthen Colombia's capacity to conduct counterterrorism operations against the FARC and ELN (designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations) and other illegal armed groups.

- INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY SYSTEM (USD 7.53 million)

The system will protect Colombia's oil production and transportation infrastructure from terrorist attacks that cost the GOC millions of dollars in lost oil revenue. U.S. assistance has cut attacks on the Cano Limon oil pipeline from a peak of 35 in 2003 to only four by mid-year 2007.

- 50 PGM (PRECISION GUIDED MUNITION) KIT ACQUISITION (USD 3.10 million)

Enhanced Paveway II Kits are strapped on to 500-pound dumb bombs, converting them to PGMs capable of striking terrorist targets within two meters in Colombia's remote jungles. These 50 kits will augment 150 purchased by the Colombian Air Force. The proposal also funds two Raytheon technical specialists for training and oversight.

- CLOSE AIR SUPPORT PILOT EXCHANGE (USD 0.40 million)

Two U.S. Close Air Support (CAS) pilots will assist and train Colombian Air Force (FAC) pilots in counterterrorist operations in new Super Tucano combat aircraft, which feature advanced weapons delivery avionics new to the FAC.

- CESSNA GRAND CARAVAN WITH LYCA CAMERA AND LADAR (USD 5.27 million)

The Caravan ISR and associated Lyca camera and LADAR system is able to map and identify structures hidden beneath the jungle canopy. These include guerrilla camps holding kidnapping victims, among them three U.S. Defense contractors and Colombian politicians, military officers, and other private citizens.

- COLOMBIAN STRATEGIC NETWORK (RIC) UPGRADE (USD 4.45 million)

This project extends secure communications to remote military bases and units now lacking coverage. The RIC network carries all tactical applications such as the VHF/FM and air-to-ground nets and the mobile digital network. It also

provides connectivity for USG-sponsored systems such as the Combined Enterprise Information Exchange System (CENTRIXS), Colombian Imagery Library Archive (CILA), and Cooperating Nations Information Exchange System (CNIES).

- "WASP" UNMANNED AERIAL SURVEILLANCE (UAS) (USD 1.50 million)

The WASP is an Unmanned Aerial Surveillance platform for use on Colombia's rivers, which are primary logistics routes for illegal armed groups. Its real-time video imagery will serve as an early warning and threat indicator system, enabling a remote operator to gather intelligence on guerrilla camps and terrorist activities.

- BIOMEDICAL DETECTION SYSTEMS (USD 3.18 million)

To assist Colombian Marines in screening for potential terrorists in search operations at riverine checkpoints, this system will fingerprint suspects and match their fingerprints and passport/ID information against a mobile data base, also feeding back to a master data base. The Colombian Coast Guard will screen transiting ships' crews, to prevent smuggling of terrorists in and out of Colombia.

- "RHIB" BOATS FOR NAVAL SPECIAL FORCES (USD 1.15 million)

Four rigid hull inflatable boats (RHIBs) will enable Colombian Naval and Coast Guard Special Forces to gather intelligence, interdict terrorist supply shipments, detect coastal staging areas, and provide force protection for visiting U.S. Navy ships.

Drucker